





PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70).

District District	Applicant's or agent's file reference							
PCT/JP2003/004720 14 April 2003 (14.04.2003) 23 April 2002 (23.04.2002) International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Applicant SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA 1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 2. This REPORT consists of a total of4 sheets, including this cover sheet.	03R00005		Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)					
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Basis of the report II Priority III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV Lack of unity of invention V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VII Certain documents cited VII Certain defects in the international application VIII Certain observations on the international application VIII Date of submission of the demand 17 July 2003 (17.07.2003) Date of completion of this report 18 February 2004 (18.02.2004) Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP Authorized officer	·							
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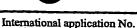
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2003/004720

L Basis	of the	report				
1. With	regard	to the elements of the international application:*				
		nternational application as originally filed				
\boxtimes		escription:				
	pages	•	-103			
	pages			, as originally filed		
l	pages			, filed with the demand		
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لاعا	pages			•		
	pages		-23	, as originally filed		
	pages		, as amended (togethe	er with any statement under Article 19		
	pages			, filed with the demand		
			, filed with the letter of	05 November 2003 (05.11.2003)		
		rawings:				
	pages		-51	, as originally filed		
	pages			, filed with the demand		
	pages		, filed with the letter of _			
t	he sequ	ence listing part of the description:				
•	pages					
	pages			, as originally filed		
	pages		filed with the letter of	, filed with the demand		
	the la	nts were available or furnished to this Authority in nguage of a translation furnished for the purposes nguage of publication of the international applicat nguage of the translation furnished for the purposes 3).	of international search (under Riion (under Rule 48,3(b)).			
3. With prelin	regard	on to any nucleotide and/or amino acid seque examination was carried out on the basis of the sec		•		
	contai	ned in the international application in written forn	1401100 11011116.			
		ogether with the international application in comp				
	furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.					
		hed subsequently to this Authority in computer rea		•		
	The s	tatement that the subsequently furnished writt ational application as filed has been furnished.	ten sequence listing does not			
	The st	tatement that the information recorded in computernished.	uter readable form is identical	to the written sequence listing has		
	The ar	nendments have resulted in the cancellation of:				
	Ħ	the description, pagesthe claims, Nos				
		the drawings, sheets/fig				
				i		
		port has been established as if (some of) the ame the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Suppler	nental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**			
Replacion in this and 70	ement : report 17).	sheets which have been furnished to the receiving t as "originally filed" and are not annexed to	Office in response to an invitate this report since they do not	ion under Article 14 are referred to contain amendments (Rule 70.16		
* Any re _l	placem	ent sheet containing such amendments must be rej	ferred to under item I and annex	ed to this report.		

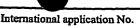




INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT PCT/JP03/04720 IV. Lack of unity of invention 1. In response to the invitation to restrict or pay additional fees the applicant has: restricted the claims. paid additional fees. paid additional fees under protest. neither restricted nor paid additional fees. This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose, according to Rule 68.1, not to invite the applicant to restrict or pay additional fees. 3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is complied with. not complied with for the following reasons: - The transmission line 121 of document 1 corresponds to a first communication channel of this invention, a communication channel to AV devices 101-103 via infrared light-emitting element 16 and a communication channel connected to audio video input terminals 11a-c of document 1 respectively correspond to a second communication channel of this invention, and control units 15b and 15c for prohibiting viewing other than specific sub units of document 1 correspond to control management means of this invention. Therefore, the constitution described in claims 1 and 12 is not a special technical feature in the meaning of PCT Rule 13.2, second sentence. Consequently, claims [1 and 2], [3-6], [7, 8 and 24], [9 and 10], [11], [12-16], [17 and 18], [19 and 20], [21], [22], [23] and [25-27] do not meet the requirement of unity of invention. Document 1: JP, 2000-224673, A 4. Consequently, the following parts of the international application were the subject of international preliminary examination in establishing this report: all parts. the parts relating to claims Nos.

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (Box IV) (July 1998)





YES

NO

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT PCT/JP03/04720

 Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement 							
Claims	3-6, 8-11, 19-23	YES					
Claims	1, 2, 7, 12-18, 24-27	NO					
Claims	3-6, 8-11, 19-23	YES					
Claims	1, 2, 7, 12-18, 24-27	МО					
	Claims Claims Claims	Claims 3-6, 8-11, 19-23 Claims 1, 2, 7, 12-18, 24-27 Claims 3-6, 8-11, 19-23					

1-27

2. Citations and explanations

Industrial applicability (IA)

Document 1: JP, 2000-224673, A (NEC Corporation), August 11, 2000 (08.11.00)

Claims

Claims

Document 2: JP, 2000-350178, A (NEC Corporation), December 15, 2000 (12.15.00)

Document 3: JP, 2000-269994, A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), September 29, 2000

(09.29.00)

The transmission line 121 of document 1 corresponds to a first communication channel of this invention, a communication channel to AV devices 101-103 via infrared light-emitting element 16 and a communication channel connected to audio video input terminals 11a-c of document 1 respectively correspond to a second communication channel of this invention, and control units 15b and 15c for prohibiting viewing other than specific sub units of document 1 correspond to control management means of this invention.

The inventions of claims 1, 2, 12-15, 17 and 18 do not appear to be novel or involve an inventive step over document 1.

Similarly, the inventions of claims 1, 2, 12-15, 17 and 18 do not appear to be novel or involve an inventive step over document 2.

In the invention of document 3, when the controller 10 outputs a device control request for controlling a specific device 20, a device management apparatus 31 compares a previously designated identification code recorded in a recording unit 202 and the controller ID of a controller, and if they match, it gives right to control. Also, when the power of an AV system is cut off or when a certain time passes etc., recorded contents of the recording unit 202 are deleted. Therefore, the inventions of claims 1, 2, 12, 13, 15-17 and 25-27 do not appear to be novel or involve an inventive step over document 3.

Also, the use rights of document 3 are registered from input part 101 (paragraph 8). Therefore, the inventions of claims 7 and 24 do not appear to be novel or involve an inventive step over document 3.

Detecting communication conditions in a communication channel and changing control right in response to change in communication conditions (claim 3), giving priority to establishment of control right of set-up input means over establishment of control rights from first communication means (claim 8) and giving control rights to other communication devices when control rights have been released are not described in documents 1-3.